

COUNTY BILL IS AGREED UPON BY JOINT CONFERENCE

Two of the House Members Remain Away From the Meeting of the Committee.

(From Saturday's Daily.)

The Joint Conference Committee of the House and the Senate has agreed upon the County bill, and has agreed, moreover, to submit its joint report to both houses on Monday morning.

This determination was reached last night, and that despite the fact that two of the House conferees, Kaniho and Fernandez, continued to remain away from the meeting. This, to be sure, might have been because the meeting was held on Good Friday. That would not account for their absence of Thursday evening, but might account for it on yesterday morning and last night. Nevertheless, it is believed that the fact of their remaining away bodes war when the committee report reaches the House.

There was but little discussion of the points still in dispute between the two houses at last night's session of the committee. In the matter of the constitution of Boards of Supervisors, it was agreed that the Oahu county board should consist of seven, two each from the Fourth and Fifth Districts, and three at large. In each of the other counties the Board of Supervisors is to consist of five members. Each supervisor is to be paid a salary of \$50 a month.

District magistrates and road overseers for the several counties are to be appointed by the Boards of Supervisors of the several counties.

The income tax exemption was fixed by compromise. The House had put the exemption at \$2000 and the Senate at \$1000. The sum agreed upon by the conferees was \$1800.

In the matter of licenses for hackmen, Aylett withdrew from the stand he had taken in the House, making it a requisite for applicants for license as hackmen to be able to speak and write the English or Hawaiian language. This leaves the provision as it was in the Senate bill, namely, that the applicant shall be qualified to drive a hack. Aylett withdrew his contention and will take the chance of passing a bill embodying his idea apart from the County bill.

And, lastly, the conferees threw out Keliioi's scheme to put the control of the schools into the hands of the authorities of the several counties, and under the bill as it went through the conference, that department remains as it is. Keliioi himself gave up his pet project.

"You will never know what this surrender costs me," he said to the conferees. "I have heard rumors that I was striving to make the change in the school system because of a spite that I had against the school department. Gentlemen, in my work as a legislator, I am above petty personal spite. My trust is too sacred for that. Education is the salvation of the Hawaiian people. Nobody realizes that more than I do. And I do not say that the present system is not a good system. But I had given this matter deep thought. My system was most carefully drawn, and I believe that it would have worked for the best in the schools. But in the interest of the whole bill, that we may get a County bill, I consent to withdraw it."

He was given a round of applause by the conferees at the conclusion of his speech, and then it was all over. There were a few more formalities. It was said that the bill as it had been agreed to by the conferees would be copied and ready for distribution on Monday morning.

Then, on motion of Harris, the conference report was adopted, with the understanding that the bill would be put through both houses if possible on Monday. And the conference committee adjourned.

OBSERVATORY FOR THE NAVAL STATION

There is being erected on the grounds of the Naval Station a small astronomical observatory, within which will be carried on scientific research which when completed will have determined the exact longitude of the Hawaiian Islands. Edwin Smith of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, who came to Honolulu from San Francisco in the Ventura, is superintending the construction of the small structure. A cement pier was laid yesterday and over this the house will be erected.

Dedicate instruments, consisting of transits, chronographs and chronometers are to be installed as soon as the pier is solid, and if Mr. Smith has five nights within the next two weeks in which to successfully carry on his observation of the stars, he will complete his labors in time to return to San Francisco in the Alameda which sails on April 22.

Arrangements have been made with Superintendent Gaines of the Pacific Commercial Cable Company to run a telegraph wire from the cable office in the Young Building to the little observatory. Another telegraph line runs from the cable company's office in San Francisco to the Coast and Geodetic Survey observatory near San Francisco, and over this telegraph-cable system impulses will be sent by Mr. Smith at a certain stated time each night he makes his observations, which will correct the time between San Francisco and Hawaii, and thereby effect the exact determination of the longitude.

After taking his observations at night Mr. Smith determines the exact time and opens up communication with San Francisco. Mr. Morse, who will be at the San Francisco end, will receive these impulses and correct his time accordingly. As Mr. Smith will not open up this communication until sometime between 9 and 10 p. m., Mr. Morse will be under the necessity of sitting up while the midnight oil is burning. The impulses are made so that the errors in the two chronometers can be corrected at both places and the true time recorded.

When Mr. Smith starts back for San Francisco, Mr. Morse will come to Honolulu, and the observations will be gone over again so that personal equation will be eliminated. Mr. Smith will later go to Guam for similar observations.

AGENT MACLENNAN SERIOUSLY SICK

The special agent of the Treasury Department charged with the payment of the claims, W. P. MacLennan, is still lying seriously ill at the Hawaiian Hotel, so ill that no one is permitted to see or converse with him. Dr. Cofer has the case in charge, and a trained nurse from the Queen's Hospital is

looking after the patient. Mr. MacLennan is suffering from a complication of illness consequent upon an attack of grippe which took him by the throat in San Francisco. He came on here with the million dollars of government coin because that was a sacred trust, but he was not fit to travel, as a matter of fact, when he left the mainland. He is pretty sick yet, but it is not thought by his physician that the case is any more severe than good and careful nursing will be able to pull around all right. In the meantime, however, the doctor insists on quiet and rest.

GOLD FOR THE FIRE CLAIMS

A Million Dollars Is Here at Last.

(From Saturday's Daily.)

W. F. MacLennan, special agent of the United States Treasury Department, arrived in the Korea yesterday morning, bringing with him a million dollars for the payment of the fire claims. The gold was immediately turned over to the First National Bank, which will act as disbursing agent.

Mr. MacLennan, who is quite ill, was taken to the Hawaiian Hotel where he is under the care of Dr. Cofer. There was no conference between Mr. MacLennan and the officials of either the government or the bank during the day and the treasury agent is undecided as to his plans until there has been some decision reached after a meeting with Governor Dole and Secretary Carter.

The money is on hand and ready for distribution among the claimants, but it is a little doubtful if it can be paid out until after the bonds are sold. This will mean April 20, at the earliest, and it may be delayed for nearly two months.

Mr. MacLennan, however, is of the opinion that he will not be delayed by the bonds, and he said yesterday that the coin would probably be ready to be paid out pro rata without waiting for the remainder of the amount due to be realized by the sale of the bonds. He was unwilling, however, to make any definite statement as to the plan to be pursued until he has had a conference with Governor Dole.

Then the records will first have to be examined by the treasury agent, and there is still the question of bonds. Cecil Brown, president of the First National Bank, who has given the matter considerable study, said last evening that he believed the bonds would have to be sold before any payment of coin could be made.

The act under which the appropriation of a million dollars was made seems to bear out this idea. The act concludes as follows:

"Before any such judgment shall be paid hereunder the Governor of the said Territory must certify that the same is genuine and was duly rendered in pursuance of the act of the Legislative assembly of the Territory; and the payment of said judgment shall be in full satisfaction and discharge of any and all claims or demands against said Territory or the United States on account of property destroyed in the said suppression of the bubonic plague."

The certified copy of the records upon which payment will be made has not been completed, as after the work had been begun Governor Dole received a cablegram countermanding the first order. However, the work is well under way, and the record can be made ready within a few days.

The bond matter, if it is held that full satisfaction must be given on all judgments, will be settled quickest, if there are no bids for the bonds at par, by getting some of the claimants to take them up. It is said that many of them are willing to accept the bonds, sooner than to wait for their pro rata of the million dollars. If the sale of the bonds is necessary to the payment of the claims, it will require nearly two months, even if they are sold in the regular manner. Only 10 per cent of the bid must be paid on its acceptance, and the bidder has the option of paying the remainder at the rate of 20 per cent each ten days thereafter.

The million dollars came in the strong box of the Korea, and there appeared to be no extraordinary precautions taken to guard it. The coin was packed in thirty-five boxes, each containing \$20,000. The denominations were five, ten and twenty dollar gold pieces, making altogether \$700,000 in gold. The remainder was in gold certificates—\$100,000 in one thousand dollar bills, the remaining \$200,000 in five hundred dollar bills. The money was counted immediately on arrival at the bank and placed in the vault.

This is Mr. MacLennan's third visit to Honolulu. He came the first time with four million to pay the Hawaiian debt, as taken over by the United States upon annexation. On the second occasion he was the agent who superintended the paying of the depositors in the Postal Savings Bank.

WHAT IS PAIN BALM?

Chamberlain's Pain Balm is a liniment, and while adapted to all the ordinary uses of a liniment, has qualities which distinguish it from other remedies of this class. Pain Balm is especially beneficial for rheumatism. Thousands of cases can be cited in which this remedy has effected a cure when the sufferer had previously tried the best medical service without securing relief. Pain Balm is positively guaranteed to give relief in the most severe cases of chronic or acute rheumatism.

Pain Balm heals bruises, burns and scalds in less time than any other treatment. It is "antiseptic," that is, it prevents putrefaction, and by so doing generally prevents an unsightly scar remaining after the injury is healed. For lame back, lumbago and neuralgia, Pain Balm has no equal. It has the quality of "getting to the right spot." No sufferer from these distressing afflictions should defer a trial of this remedy. One application gives relief. Try it. All Dealers and Druggists sell it. Benson, Smith & Co., Ltd., agents for Hawaii.

READY TO TAKE SITE

Transfer of Land Approved at Washington.

(Mail Special to the Advertiser.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 28.—Assistant Secretary Taylor, at the Treasury Department, said today that a legal report had been received from the Attorney General, stating that the proposed transfer of public lands in Hawaii for what is known as the Bishop street site, to be used as a site for the new postoffice building, was entirely legal and regular.

It appears that Governor Dole, some time in January, addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Interior notifying him of the acquisition of a site for a public building—the arrangement being subject to the acceptance by the Secretary of the Treasury of the site for federal building purposes. The opinion of the Attorney General was requested as to the power of the Territorial officers to acquire a site in this manner, and also as to the power of the Treasury Department to assume control of such a site in the absence of legislation authorizing such acquisition.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S VIEW.

In response to the inquiry, the Attorney General holds about as follows:

First—That the joint resolution of annexation transfers to the United States the ownership of all public property, including lands, of the Republic.

Second—That under the Organic Act the lands remain in the possession and under the control of the government of the Territory of Hawaii, and that the existing laws of Hawaii relative to the management and disposition of such lands are continued in force, such control, however, being subject to the right of the President of the United States to set apart any part of the same for federal purposes.

Third—That, under existing land laws of Hawaii, the Commissioner of Public Lands, with the consent of the Governor of the Territory, has the right to exchange public lands for private lands.

Fourth—That the lands acquired by such exchange become public property and subject to the power of the President of the United States to set them apart for federal purposes.

Fifth—That, upon being authorized so to do by the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury has the right to assume custody and control of the site for a federal building, notwithstanding the fact that a law of the United States provides that "no land shall be purchased on account of the United States except under a law of the United States authorizing such purchase."

READY FOR CONGRESS.

"This," said Mr. Taylor, "smooths the way for making the transfer when Congress desires it to be done. A report will be made to Congress at the next session, embodying the legal views of the Attorney General, and then Congress can, if it chooses, appropriate money for the erection of the new building and authorize the transfer of the property for a site."

"The Attorney General's opinion," continued Mr. Taylor, "contains little of interest, except the conclusion that the proposed transfer will be entirely legal and regular. He reviews the laws affecting the public lands of the Islands and kindred statutes and draws the conclusion that a transfer of public lands in the Islands for the proposed site in Honolulu would be entirely within the law. But we cannot of course go ahead and actually make the transfer until Congress authorizes it."

Mr. Alonzo H. Stewart, assistant doorkeeper of the Senate, and intimately known to the prominent Senators on both sides of the chamber, is contemplating a trip across the Pacific soon, and expects to tarry in Honolulu. He will probably be accompanied by Mrs. Stewart. Mr. Stewart is an intimate friend of Senator Allison, the Republican leader of the Senate, and hails from the state of Iowa.

Peck Had Two Wives.

Mary L. Peck has brought suit against Carl R. Peck for annulment of marriage on the ground that Mr. Peck had a wife at the time they were joined in wedlock. The plaintiff, whose maiden name was Mary L. Arnold, says that she and Peck were married at Honolulu on April 25, 1900, and lived together as man and wife until May 29, 1901, when they separated. She does not know Peck's present residence. There was born of the marriage one child, by name Nohea Ornel Arnold Peck, a son, who is now of the age of two years and over, and in the custody of the plaintiff's mother at Kona, Hawaii. The plaintiff claims that Peck had a former wife, Emma H. Peck, and the marriage was in force at the time of this second marriage.

Navy's Coaling Stations.

With two coaling stations which the Navy Department has decided to establish in the Aleutian Islands, close to the regular route of traffic between the Pacific Northwest and the Orient, the Navy will still further strengthen its support in the Pacific Ocean. The proposed stations will afford a foothold in the North Pacific corresponding to those which have been acquired further south in Hawaii and Samoa, and these, together with the station at Guam, complete a chain of outposts in the Pacific capable of supporting the Navy in any emergency.

Mrs. W. H. Rickard and the Misses Rickard, of Honokaa, arrived in the Korea.

HUNDREDS DIE BY EXPLOSION AT HONGKONG

The Largest Mill in the East Is Destroyed With All the Workmen.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS CABLEGRAMS)

HONGKONG, April 10.—By an explosion in the powder factory here today 1500 men were killed.

The factory is one of the largest in the east and the men employed were Chinese coolies with the exception of a few skilled hands, who were Europeans.

The explosion was so great that all the buildings of the powder works were knocked down and as there was no adequate means of fighting the fire, the establishment is a wreck and the remains of many of those killed have been cremated.

Great damage was done to surrounding property and the shock of the explosion was felt for many miles around.

PEKING, China, April 10.—Young Lu, "the real ruler of China," is dead.

The most powerful man in China is dead. To some he was known as Young Lu and to other as Jung Lu, but he was known to all as the man who probably dictated all the actions of the Empress Dowager. A well known royal prince of China recently said: "Jung Lu is the actual emperor, and everyone knows it; there is only one member of the cabinet, though six names appear on the board; Jung Lu is that man."

Young Lu was trusted by the Empress Dowager implicitly and was one of the few who could see her, the others being minions of Young Lu whom he sent to her. He was about sixty years of age, spare in frame, but very vigorous and active in his movements and although he has been very ill for over three months it was expected that he would live.

Although the Empress trusted Young Lu, but few others did. While dominating the Empress it is believed that he secretly assisted the Boxers and was largely responsible for the last uprising and recent Chinese advices declared that he was planning a great Boxer movement in the north of China which had for its object the placing of Pu Chun, son of Prince Tuan, on the throne.

Recently this youth was proclaimed as Emperor in the North of China and the rebels expected to set up a capital at the palace of Hsian, occupied by the Empress Dowager and the court after the flight from Peking, during the Boxer troubles.

AMSTERDAM, Holland, April 10.—The strike is waning today. There have been many minor riots and in each the strikers have come out worsted and laboring bodies all over the Netherlands are noticing that the government has complete control over the situation and that it will be useless to join forces with those already out. The laboring classes are already suffering from lack of food and this cause alone may go a long way towards entirely breaking up the strike.

WILLEMSTAD, April 10.—Rebel activity is reported from all parts of the country. A victory was gained over Castro's troops near Caracas, but the capital is not really in danger.

Barquisimeto, the chief city of the state of Lara, was taken today after hard fighting. The city is at the southern terminus of the railway from Tucacas, an important port. There has been some fighting about Coro but it has been indecisive.

SAN DOMINGO, April 10.—After an all days battle before the city today the rebels gained a decisive victory. The forces of the government were beaten back and returned in great disorder.

The losses on both sides were heavy, both in killed and wounded. Among the dead is the Rebel General Pepin.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 10.—Serious disturbances resulted in many parts of the city today when the police began to gather in those without passports. The number of arrests was more than 2,000 and in some instances the riots which were precipitated resulted in loss of life.

BRISTOL, Conn., April 10.—The Cup defender Reliance will be launched tomorrow. The Herreshoffs announced today that all was in readiness and the new yacht will be given baptism at the full tide. Manager Iselin and a party of friends will be in attendance.

ROME, April 10.—The strikes here were ended today. Committees of strikers and employers met and after consultation with representatives of the Government a basis of agreement was reached and the men agreed to return to work.

SALONICA, April 10.—An Insurgent army today approached almost to the gates of the city and were pursued and engaged by a battalion of the Turkish forces. The Macedonians withdrew for some distance, and then made a stand and gave determined resistance.

The battle progressed for several hours the Turks being reinforced from the garrison. Fighting continued until nightfall and a regiment of infantry has been sent forward to strengthen the Turkish lines.

ROME, Italy, April 10.—Dwight Benson died here today.

MANILA, P. I., April 10.—Captain John J. Pershing's force has captured Bacolod. In the sharp fight that took place one hundred Moros were killed and three Americans wounded.

BRISTOL, Conn., April 10.—Two incendiary attempts have been made to destroy the cup defender Reliance building at Herreshoff's yards. Both attempts have been frustrated and the guards over the yards doubled.

CHICAGO, Ill., April 10.—A row over the election occurred here today in one of the down-town saloons. Revolvers were freely used. Police were summoned and in the melee that followed four Italians and one officer were wounded.

SAN DOMINGO, April 10.—A heavy battle took place today, ending with the revolutionists in full possession of the city. The foreign warships have landed marines to protect the Consulates and property of foreigners. Negotiations are being made to bring about a cessation of hostilities preliminary to a new election for President.

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., April 10.—The Rev. W. H. Milburn, "the Blind Man Eloquent," for many years the chaplain of the United States Senate, died here today. He had taken up a temporary residence here in an effort to regain his health, and intended to return to Washington in the fall.